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NBC

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UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS
(EPISODE NO. 204)

OK

CHICAGO OUTLET

() (JUNE 26, 1936) (FRIDAY)
TIME DATE DAY

PRODUCTION

ANNOUNCER

ENGINEER

REMARKS

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FILE CL

ANNOUNCER: "Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers"

MUSIC: QUARTETTE: RANGER SONG

ANNOUNCER: This is the busy season in the National Forests. Careful and unceasing watch must be maintained to detect the first signs of forest fires, the use of cattle and sheep ranges must be superintended, game grounds must be inspected and kept in order, and recreationists must be looked after and warned against the danger of carelessness with matches, cigarettes and camp fires. The Forest Rangers are always glad to advise campers of the best camp sites, the best fishing and the best routes of travel.

As you know, the Pine Cone Ranger Station has recently been the scene of some excitement concerning the mysterious "Lost Mine" of Bonanza Basin. Last week we discovered that Wendel J. Kyger, a young mining engineer, was searching for the "Lost Mine," with the intention of working it himself. He would not be dissuaded by the fact that this same quest for gold had proved a tragedy to many others who had tried it. We also discovered that old Tom, who runs the Lunch Room in Winding Creek, had tried to frighten the young mining engineer away and that Tom was undoubtedly one of the only men alive who knew the true story of the "Lost Mine." Well, now to the Pine Cone Ranger Station and we'll go on with the story. Here we are ---

JERRY: (COMING UP) Well, I just issued a yellow & camp this morning.
Jim.

JIM: They're starting early this morning, aren't they, Jerry?

JERRY: Yeah.

JIM: Did he have an axe and shovel in his outfit?

JERRY: Yep. And got shovel and waterbucket. He's come all the way
from Ohio, but he kept his "stuffed" coat with him all night.

JIM: That's good.

JERRY: Yeah. It's getting dry enough so somebody's cigarette butt
could start a fire awful easy.

JIM: Yep. If it wasn't stamped out.

JERRY: Say, Jim, I've been thinking about this fellow Kager. I wonder
if he's going up to the Lost Mine today.

JIM: He talked like he might when he was in here yesterday.
Seemed anxious to get up there.

(SOUND: PHONE RINGS)

JIM: There's that phone again. (ANSWERING) Hello. Pine Cone
Ranger Station -- Oh, hello, Stan -- Romance Basin? -- I
don't know. Why? -- Old Tom? -- Early this morning, huh?
Huh --- Yeah, I know who that fellow is. -- Well, I don't
know, Stan. Thanks. -- Okay. So long. (HANGS UP) -- (TO JERRY)
Jerry, maybe we'd better head up to that Lost Mine today
ourselves.

JERRY: Why?

JIM: Looks like something's up. I wonder if that old Haddon
mine's going to be the cause of another tragedy.

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(INTERVAL - MUSIC)

JIM: What's up, boy? He was wrong?

BOY: He told us not to tell anybody, least of all him! Some guys by tomorrow night.

JERRY: Tomorrow night?

BOY: I'm not sure. He said he was sure, 'Dorothy will come' -- I'm going to the 'Lost Mine' or I'll cut the wire or I'll -- Ah! I see --

JERRY: (EXCITED) You got to go to the 'Lost Mine'?

JIM: (SHARPLY) Hold it, Jerry! And what'd you say, boy?

BOY: I just got to go, I see. 'Okay, Tom'?

JIM: Oh, I see.

BOY: Ah, I see. The 'Lost Mine' and the wire --

JERRY: (EXCITED) The wire? What --

JIM: (SHARPLY) Wait a minute, Jerry. -- Did we mention what he was telling us about the wire?

BOY: Yeah -- He said he was sure, I know. 'Dorothy will come' -- I'm going to the 'Lost Mine' or I'll cut the wire or I'll -- Ah! I see --

JIM: (FADING) Come on, Jerry! Let's go!

BOY: (FADING) Hey, if he don't come back by tomorrow night --

SOUND: (DOOR OPENS AND CLOSERS)

JERRY: (FADING IN) Are we going to the 'Lost Mine'?

JIM: We're not to, Jerry.

(INTERVAL - MUSIC)

SOUND: (FADING) SOMEONE SINGS AT WALL: (CONTINUES THROUGH FOLLOWING)

JERRY: Yeah, it's sure worth going this way, Jim.

JIM: I know it, Jerry. But it's not only chance, nothing goes the right kind way. Old Tom went up by the regular trail.

JERRY: Yeah, as sure as it was sent by Stan Wright's place -- Say Jim, what do you make of all this, anyhow?

JIM: Don't know what to make of it, Jerry.

JERRY: Gosh, do you s'pose Old Tom's got an obsession or something about that Lost Mine and won't let anybody else go to it?

JIM: I'm wondering.

JERRY: Gee, maybe he's going to live out and wait 'till Kyger gets in the shaft and then set off some powder and cave the shaft in on 'im -- Maybe that's what happened before. Maybe that's why nobody ever came back.

JIM: Maybe -- (CLUCKS TO HORSE) Come, Dolly.

(SOUND: HORSES AT TROT -- FADE)

(PAUSE)

(SOUND: FADE IN HORSES AT WALK)

JIM: We're almost there, Jerry. Right up here a little ways we turn off the trail and head up that draw, and --

JERRY: Look, Jim. There's somebody ahead of us on the trail -- it's that mining engineer, ain't it?

JIM: So it is. Yep, it's Kyger.

JERRY: I guess Old Tom's reached the mine by now, then. He had a long headstart on Kyger.

JIM: Yep, I expect. Come on, Jerry. We'd better catch up with
this fellow Kyger. -- Set up, Dolly.

(SOUND: HORSES AT LOPE TWO OR THREE SECONDS, SLOW TO WALK)

JIM: Hi there, Mr. Kyger.

KYGER: (OFF) Hello, there -- (UP) It's you Rangers, eh? So
you've been following me.

JIM: Yep. Mr. Kyger, I think maybe we'd better look around a
little before you start lookin' into that mine.

KYGER: And may I ask why? It seems to me that, since this is
my own personal affair --

JIM: Don't know as I can say just why, Kyger, but maybe we'll find
out.

KYGER: Well, I'm not interested, Ranger. I thank you gentlemen,
but I don't need a personal escort.

JIM: (TO JERRY) Well, the same I reckon you're going to have now,
Mr. Kyger.

(SOUND: HORSES HOOPS AT WALK, UP -- FADEOUT)

(PAUSE)

(SOUND: FADING HORSES HOOPS AT WALK)

JIM: Well, Dolly,

JERRY: Well, Spooky.

(HORSES STOP)

JIM: Well, have to leave the horses here, boys, and go in to
look over.

KYGER: As I said before, Mr. McNeill. I'd really rather not have a
personally conducted tour. I'd thank you gentlemen to get
on ahead of mine horses slow, and --

SID: BOSS. Mr. Kyger -- You got Oswald's flight out in that
lodge up there. If you want to, go in there now.

KYGER: You're going to insist on accompanying me?

JIM: Well, I'm going to check out. You can wait here and go up
later if you'd rather.

KYGER: I'll go now.

JIM: It's kind of hard scrambling over these rocks --

JERRY: Look -- isn't that old Tom up there on the ledge?

JIM: Yep.

KYGER: That's that lunch room man, isn't it? What's he doing
up here?

JIM: That's just what I want to find out, Syger.

TOM: (SHOUTS - OFF) Stay back there, you fellows! - Don't come up
here!

KYGER: (SHOUTS) Hey, what're you doing up there?!

JERRY: My gosh, Jim! He's got a switch box! He's going to blow
up the place.

TOM: (OFF) Stay back there, I tell yuh!

KYGER: Hey, what are you doing, man?! Stop it! You can't do
that!

TOM: (OFF) Stay back, I tell yuh! I got a load of powder in
that there shaft. I'm gonna blow it plus outa the --

KYGER: (OFF) Stop it, I say! Don't you push that switch! Stop!

TOM: (OFF) Lookout -- here she goes!

TOM: Yep. All them stories about how rich she is ain't no Jib. She's just a hole in the ground. But anyway, we got to quarrelin', we had my mother, an' one time I was comin' out the shaft an' he gave a yell, an' I figgered he had his gun drawned from the way he yelled. So I turns quick an' tried to draw at the same time, but he got me in the arm an' I lost my gun. An' just then the shaft caves in an' that was the last I seen of 'em. I made it out of the shaft some way an' cleared out the country.

JIM: So that's the story, eh, Tom?

TOM: Yep. I getskeered the place was jinxed, an' when I seen what happened to the other fellas that tried it I knew she was jinxed. So when I see this young fella here, an' see who he was, I know'd I'd better blow 'er up -- 'cause I knew you was up here lookin' fer this mine.

KYGER: How did you know?

TOM: 'Cause it's in your blood, son.

KYGER: You said you knew who I was?

TOM: I reckon it was the way yer nose twinkled up when you laughed, like yer maw's.

KYGER: Like my mother's. Did you know my ---

TOM: Did I know her? -- I reckon I did, son. I was married to her.

KYGER: (OVERWHELMED) You mean you're my ---

TOM: Yep, son, I reckon I'm your old man.

KYGER: But mother always said you were killed ---

TOM: I don't blame her none. She was level-headed and stiddy. She didn't stand with no prospectin' and chasin' around. She was smarter'n me. She went and tuk you with 'er, 'Cause I wouldn't git myself an honest job.

KYGER: Then you dynamited the mine to---

TOM: Yep. I weren't gonna let no jinx of mine get my son.

JERRY: We thought maybe you were tryin' to get Kyger to keep him away from the mine 'cause you wanted it yourself.

TOM: No sir. She was an empty hole -- that's all -- an' the jinx was on 'er too. I wouldn't a gone in that shaft agin fer love nor money.

KYGER: Well, I guess I owe you Rangers an apology. I see now you came up here to pull me out of a tough spot.

JIM: Forget it, son. We thought you might've been headin' for trouble.

TOM: As long as yet got friends like these Rangers, my boy, ye kin figger yer putty lucky. If we had more men like 'em in this country, we'd git along better.

KYGER: You don't have to tell me that, I've learned it myself. Here, can you give me a hand? My legs are a little wobbly.

JIM: There y'are!

TOM: Stiddy, now, son!

KYGER: Thanks

TOM: Say, Jim. Tell me one thing, will ya? How'd ye know I wuz headin' up here?

JIM: Well, you see, Tom ----

JERRY: That boy that works for you said---

TON: I knowd it! I know'd I couldn't trust him, drat his
hide. I told 'im I'd cuff the ears off'n 'im (FADING)
I told 'im I'd cuff 'im----

ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers is presented each Friday by
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